

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 215091

FOL RPT BONN 15173 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO BERLIN LONDON
MOSCOW PARIS USBERLIN USNATO USUN NEW YORK AUG 21, 1978

QUOTE: C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 15173

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, BQG, SENV
SUBJECT: POSSIBLE BERLIN-RELATED PROTEST AT DRESDEN
SEMINAR

1. AT THE AUGUST 16 BONN GROUP MEETING, THE FRG REP
(VON BRAUNMUEHL) REPORTED THAT A BERLIN MEMBER WOULD BE
INCLUDED IN THE FRG DELEGATION TO A UN-SPONSORED SEMINAR
IN DRESDEN NEXT MONTH. THE DELEGATE IN QUESTION WILL BE
FROM THE FEDERAL ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICE IN BERLIN.

2. THE SUBJECT OF THE SEMINAR IS RECYCLING OF SYNTHETIC
WASTE (KUNSTSTOFF ABFAELLE) AND IT IS BEING HELD FROM
SEPTEMBER 17-23 UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE UN ECONOMIC
COMMISSION FOR EUROPE (ECE).

3. VON BRAUNMUEHL RECALLED THAT IN A SIMILAR SITUATION
LAST YEAR OFFICIALS FROM THE FEDERAL HEALTH OFFICE IN
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BERLIN HAD ENCOUNTERED DIFFICULTIES IN ATTENDING A UN
ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM SEMINAR. THE FRG DELEGATES WERE AT
FIRST REFUSED ADMISSION AND ONCE ADMITTED WERE NOT
PERMITTED TO SPEAK.

4. VON BRAUNMUEHL SAID THAT MR. VAN BERG, A MEMBER OF
THE FRG'S PERMANENT REPRESENTATION IN THE GDR, WAS

ACCOMPANYING THE FRG DELEGATION TO ADVISE ON ANY
BERLIN-RELATED COMPLICATIONS. HE ASKED THAT THE ALLIES
ALSO TAKE STEPS TO PREPARE FOR A POSSIBLE PROTEST
ACTION.

5. THE FEDERAL ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICE HAS HAD A CONTRO-
VERSIAL HISTORY IN ITS OWN RIGHT AND THE PRESENCE OF AN
OFFICIAL FROM THAT OFFICE AT A SEMINAR IN THE GDR SEEMS
ESPECIALLY LIKELY TO GENERATE SOME KIND OF REACTION FROM
THE EAST. IF A US DELEGATION WILL BE ATTENDING THIS ECE
SEMINAR, THE DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO CONSIDER BRIEFING
THE MEMBERS BEFORE THEIR DEPARTURE.

MEEHAN

UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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